

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SCCT-01 SAJ-01 AF-06 /074 W

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R 281552Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4104

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USINT BAGHDAD UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5440

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LE

SUBJECT: SEVEN "SABOTEURS" REPORTEDLY CHARGED IN CONNECTION
WITH PHALANGE/PALESTINIAN CLASHES

REF: BEIRUT 5296

1. BEIRUT PRESS APR 25 CARRIED VARIOUS VERSIONS
OF REPORT THAT GOL HAS ISSUED WARRANTS FOR ARREST
OF SEVEN PERSONS ON CHARGES OF SABOTAGE DURING OR
AFTER LAST WEEK'S PHALANGE-FEDAYEEN CLASHES HERE.
WARRANTS REPORTEDLY CHARGE THEM WITH CONSPIRACY
TO STEAL AUTOMOBILES, LOAD THEM WITH EXPLOSIVES
AND PARK THEM IN FRONT OF CERTAIN PHALANGIST
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. NAMES OF THOSE CHARGED
WERE NOT RPT NOT RELEASED, BUT MOST PRESS AC-
COUNTS ALLEGE THAT ONE PERSON IS FRENCH NATIONAL
AND OTHERS SPEAK OF AN AUSTRIAN. FRENCH-
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LANGUAGE DAILY, L'ORIENT-LE-JOUR, STATES THAT ALL

SEVEN ARE AFFILIATED WITH IRAQI-SUPPORTED FEDAYEEN GROUP, ARAB LIBERATION FRONT.

2. MEANWHILE, PRIMIN SOLH, WHO HAS ALLUDED FREQUENTLY TO "HIDDEN HANDS" WHICH ALLEGEDLY HAVE BEEN TRYING REKINDLE CLASHES FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF APR 16 CEASEFIRE (REFTEL), HAS ASSERTED HE WILL HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE SOON TO ANSWER HIS CRITICS AND TO REVEAL FACTS WHICH WILL "MAKE CHILDRENS' HAIR TURN GREY." STILL REFUSING TO IDENTIFY ELEMENTS WHO COMPRISE MYSTERIOUS "HIDDEN HANDS", SOLH DECLARED APR 24 THAT THOSE "WHO WANTED TO BURN LEBANON HAVE THEMSELVES BEEN BURNED."

3. COMMENT: BEIRUT IS ALIVE WITH RUMORS ABOUT "HIDDEN HANDS" AND SO-CALLED "THIRD PARTIES." WE ARE CONSTANTLY TOLD BY VARIOUS LOCAL CONTACTS THAT NUMBER OF AGENTS PROVATEUR, SNIPERS, ETC., HAVE BEEN ARRESTED BY SECURITY FORCES OVER LAST WEEK OR SO AND THAT THEY INCLUDE SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF NON-LEBANESE, BOTH ARABS AND NON-ARABS. ONE RELIABLE GOL SOURCE EVEN TOLD EMBOFF THAT ONE DETAINEE IS NATIONAL OF CHAD. SEVEN ADDITIONAL WARRANTS ANNOUNCED APR 25, THEREFORE, COULD ADD TO A TOTAL WHICH NOW MAY REACH AS HIGH AS 25-30.
GODLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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05 JUL 2006

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